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June 27, 2011

Dear Senators:

I recently attended a meeting of this committee in regards to HB 4746 and SB470 in which I stated that these bills are too ambiguous and I felt that some clarification needed to be made in regards to the verbiage of "no serious consequence". At the time of the meeting I believe Senator Warren made the comment that this committee should take a step back and slow down a little, she felt that this bill was like "using a bazooka to kill a mouse". I would have to agree with her.

Later in the day we spoke with Senator Casperson and he guaranteed us that nothing more would happen with this bill until townships could have the opportunity to give some input on the correct wording. I recently read Gerald Fishers amendment to this bill and I think it is a good place to start in regards to trying to rectify the contention and concerns that this bill has presented.

As you may know we have an issue in our township similar to what happened in Kasson Township and you have heard testimony in regards to this case, I am not going to bore you with more of that situation. I just believe that the zoning enabling act is there for a reason and that it already prevents townships from excluding the use of land if there is no other area where this use is allotted in a township zoning ordinance. I understand that a zoning ordinance can establish rules and regulations for special uses of areas that are not zoned for such use, but here lies the problem, how are those rules enforced. Maybe this is something that needs to be addressed by this committee.

I understand that the purpose of this bill is to help create jobs in Michigan and I certainly don't disagree that we do need jobs, but I really think there are better ways to accomplish this and I believe this committee does not want to see our beautiful state totally destroyed.

Please reconsider passing this bill if it comes up for a vote within your committee meeting on Tuesday, June 28, 2010.

Respectfully

Carol Little

Charter Township of Portage Resident